

21 FEB 1973

73-916

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Plans
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Deputy Director for Support
Director of National Estimates
General Counsel
Inspector General
Legislative Counsel
Administrative Officer, DCI

SUBJECT: Review of Classification Authority Delegations

1. The National Security Council is concerned with the delegations of classification authority under Executive Order 11652 to more people than are necessary. We have had this interest called to our attention several times, particularly as our totals have shown an inclination to rise.
2. The Executive Order and the implementing National Security Council Directive place limitations upon the delegation and use of classifying authority. Of primary concern is need, rather than position or grade, and it is the intent that a real change take place in previously well-established classifying habits.
3. In view of the foregoing, it is requested that you undertake a review of the delegations of classification authority within your Directorates and Offices at all levels of classification. This review should take into account the need of the individual to possess a classification authority in terms of the definitions contained in Executive Order 11652. I would hope that the results of such a review would permit a reduction in our total numbers of authorized classifiers at all levels. The results of such a review will be reported by 10 March 1973.

15/
W. E. Colby
Executive Secretary
CIA Management Committee

GFD:WEC:bec (20 Feb 73)

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1 - Each Adse

1 - ExecSec/Mgt Committee

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1 - Jack Elder - 26 Feb.